DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

EDMUND G. BROWN JR. • GOVERNOR
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April 9, 2015

Mr. Steve Hallam, Economic Development/Redevelopment Manager
City of Stanislaus Ceres
2720 2nd Street
Ceres, CA 95307-3292

Dear Mr. Hallam:

Subject: Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34177 (m), the City of Stanislaus Ceres Successor Agency (Agency) submitted a Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS) 15-16A to the California Department of Finance (Finance) on February 27, 2015 for the period of July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. Finance has completed its review of your ROPS 15-16A, which may have included obtaining clarification for various items.

Based on a sample of line items reviewed and application of the law, Finance made the following determinations:

- Item No. 10 – Short Term Loan Repayment in the amount of $15,555 is partially allowed. The Agency requested Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Funds (RPTTF) in the amount of $15,555 for a shortfall loan during the ROPS 14-15B period. However, the Agency was only underfunded by $12,705, during ROPS 14-15B. Therefore, the excess of $2,850 ($15,555 - $12,705) is not an enforceable obligation and not eligible for RPTTF funding.

The administrative costs claimed are within the fiscal year administrative cap pursuant to HSC section 34171 (b). However, Finance notes the oversight board has approved an amount that appears excessive, given the number and nature of the obligations listed on the ROPS. HSC section 34179 (i) requires the oversight board to exercise a fiduciary duty to the taxing entities. Therefore, Finance encourages the oversight board to apply adequate oversight when evaluating the administrative resources required to successfully wind-down the Agency.

Pursuant to HSC section 34186 (a), successor agencies were required to report on the ROPS 15-16A form the estimated obligations and actual payments (prior period adjustments) associated with the July through December 2014 period. HSC section 34186 (a) also specifies prior period adjustments self-reported by successor agencies are subject to audit by the county auditor-controller (CAC) and the State Controller. Proposed CAC adjustments were not received in time for inclusion in this letter; therefore, the amount of RPTTF approved in the table on the next page only reflects the prior period adjustment self-reported by the Agency.

Except for the item that has been denied, Finance is not objecting to the remaining items listed on your ROPS 15-16A. If you disagree with the determination with respect to any items on your ROPS 15-16A, you may request a Meet and Confer within five business days of the date of this letter. The Meet and Confer process and guidelines are available at Finance's website below:

http://www.dof.ca.gov/redevelopment/meet_and_confer/

The Agency's maximum approved RPTTF distribution for the reporting period is $338,475 as summarized in the Approved RPTTF Distribution table below:

Approved RPTTF Distribution For the period of July through December 2015		
Total RPTTF requested for non-administrative obligations		216,325
Total RPTTF requested for administrative obligations		125,000
Total RPTTF requested for obligations on ROPS	**$**	**341,325**
Total RPTTF requested for non-administrative obligations		**216,325**
Denied Item		
Item No. 10		(2,850)
Total RPTTF authorized for non-administrative obligations	**$**	**213,475**
Total RPTTF requested for administrative obligations		**125,000**
Total RPTTF authorized for administrative obligations	**$**	**125,000**
Total RPTTF authorized for obligations	**$**	**338,475**
ROPS 14-15A prior period adjustment		0
Total RPTTF approved for distribution	**$**	**338,475**

Please refer to the ROPS 15-16A schedule that was used to calculate the approved RPTTF amount:

http://www.dof.ca.gov/redevelopment/ROPS

Absent a Meet and Confer, this is Finance's final determination related to the enforceable obligations reported on your ROPS for July 1 through December 31, 2015. This determination only applies to items where funding was requested for the six-month period. Finance's determination is effective for this time period only and should not be conclusively relied upon for future periods. All items listed on a future ROPS are subject to a subsequent review and may be denied even if it was or was not denied on this ROPS or a preceding ROPS. The only exception is for those items that have received a Final and Conclusive determination from Finance pursuant to HSC section 34177.5 (i). Finance's review of items that have received a Final and Conclusive determination is limited to confirming the scheduled payments as required by the obligation.

The amount available from the RPTTF is the same as the amount of property tax increment that was available prior to the enactment of ABx1 26 and AB 1484. This amount is not and never was an unlimited funding source. Therefore, as a practical matter, the ability to fund the items on the ROPS with property tax is limited to the amount of funding available to the agency in the RPTTF.

Pursuant to HSC section 34177 (a) (3), only those payments listed on an approved ROPS may be made by the successor agency from the funds specified in the ROPS. However, if the Agency needs to make payments for approved obligations from another funding source, HSC section 34177 (a) (4) requires the Agency to first obtain oversight board approval.

To the extent proceeds from bonds issued after December 31, 2010 exist and are not encumbered by an enforceable obligation pursuant to HSC section 34171 (d), HSC section 34191.4 (c) (2) (B) requires these proceeds be used to defease the bonds or to purchase those same outstanding bonds on the open market for cancellation.

Please direct inquiries to Wendy Griffe, Supervisor or Jared Smith, Lead Analyst at (916) 445-1546.

Sincerely,

JUSTYN HOWARD
Program Budget Manager

cc: Ms. Sheila Cumberland, Finance Director/Deputy City Manager, City of Stanislaus Ceres
Ms. Lauren Klein, Auditor-Controller, Stanislaus County
California State Controller's Office